

News from the Wyoming Department of Health

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Department Sets Second Workforce Wellness Summit

Business representatives from around the state are invited by the Wyoming Department of Health to register for the second Wyoming Workforce Wellness Summit, which is set for September 24-25 in Cheyenne.

This year's conference will be held at the Little America Hotel and Resort.

"What to do about healthcare costs is a continuing concern for Wyoming employers," said Joe Grandpre, chronic disease section chief with the Wyoming Department of Health. "With disease prevention as a focus, Wyoming's employers can help both their workers and their own financial picture by adopting workforce wellness programs."

Dave Ivester, heart disease and stroke prevention program manager with the Wyoming Department of Health, said last year's first summit was well received and that's what led to the planning of this year's event. "We'll once again 'make the case' for workforce wellness along with describing a number of options for companies of various sizes."

Featured speakers include Steve Alana, author of "The Culprit and the Cure"; Donna Allen Dover, founder of Positive Purpose, Inc.; Mark Fenton, former host of the PBS show "America's Walking"; Bill Rice, occupational health manager at Campbell County Memorial Hospital in Gillette; Tammy Till, wellness coordinator for Wyoming state government; Teresa Araas, wellness coordinator with Memorial Hospital of Sheridan County; Mark Hicks, Wyoming Through with Chew coordinator; Vicki Pirayesh, Wyoming Health Fairs director; Pete Shatwell, preventive health strategies director with TwoMedicine Health and Financial Fitness; and Grandpre.

Ivester encouraged business owners and managers, wellness program coordinators, occupational and industrial healthcare professionals, as well as human resources professionals to attend. Participants will be given a take-home tool kit to use as reference following the conference. Continuing education credits are expected to be available.

Registration is \$75 if received by September 14 and \$90 after that date. For more information or to register, visit www.health.wyo.gov/PHSD/heartdisease online or call 777-3732.

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